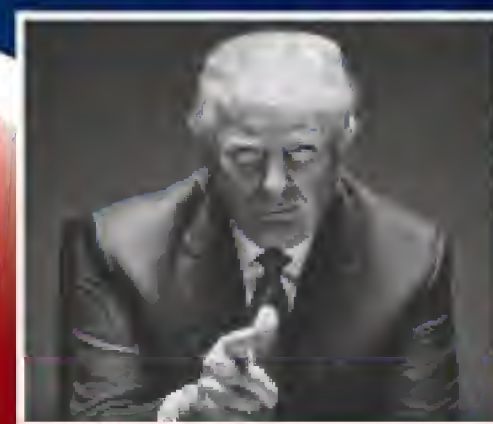


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THE TIME. HAS COME.

Will Super Bowl LII be yet another coronation for one of the greatest dynasties in sports? Or will a backup quarterback slay a legend?



WELCOME TO WKND

WATT BURKE, SPORTS EDITOR

The time. Has come. The buildup is just about over. The Patriots are either hours away from capturing their franchise record-tying sixth Super Bowl title or are hours away from falling to 5-3 in the Brady/Belichick era in Super Bowl games.

Today in Metro, we have five things to watch for in Super Bowl LII on page 2, Super Bowl prop bets on pages 4-5, player posters of Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski on pages 14-15, a "How to beat the Eagles" feature on page 16 and Danny Picard's Super Bowl preview column on page 17. We'll have even more, live from Minneapolis at metro.us.

THE EAGLES DEFENSE IS OVERRATED

I Make no mistake, the New England Patriots have already faced the toughest defense they'll see this season — in the narrow AFC Championship game win over the Jacksonville Jaguars. Much has been made about Philly's outstanding defensive front four, but statistically, their pass-rush was just so-so this year. The Eagles finished just

15th in the NFL this season with 38 sacks. Compare that to No. 1 Pittsburgh (56) and No. 2 Jacksonville (55) and it's not too impressive. The last team to beat the Patriots in the postseason was the sack-happy Denver Broncos two years ago, and they led the NFL in sacks that year with 52. The Patriots offensive line should at least be able to give Tom Brady enough time to find open targets in Super Bowl LII.



WINNING THE GUESSING GAME

2 A big part of why Philadelphia has been so good this season is the unpredictability of their play-calling on both sides of the ball. The flea-flicker — a play that is disguised as a hand-off before the running back pitches it back to the quarterback — that the Eagles ran to open the second half of their NFC title game win over the Minnesota Vikings broke that game wide open. It was the exclamation point on a resounding 38-7 victory that now

sees the Eagles playing in their third-ever Super Bowl. The Patriots did not execute their trickery on Championship Sunday quite as well, as the double pass to Dion Lewis initially looked like it would go for a touchdown — Lewis wound up fumbling the ball on the play and turning it over to Jacksonville's talented young line-backer Myles Jack. If the Patriots are in a close game in the third quarter, expect them to break out some sort of gimmick play.



GETTY IMAGES

THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM

4 The conventional wisdom says the Patriots defense will look to take away the Eagles' run game and allow Nick Foles to try and beat them. It's safe to say that Eagles coach Doug Pederson knows that. So what if Bill Belichick flips the script? What if he goes into attack mode against Foles, and instead tries to see if the Philly run game can beat them? All the statistics in the world point to this being a

bad idea as Philly finished third overall in rushing this year, and the Pats run defense has been abysmal all year. At the same time, though, should the Pats really be quivering about former Dolphin Jay Ajayi, and old friend LeGarrette Blount? Ajayi never had more than 59 yards rushing in three meetings against the Pats in AFC East play, and Blount had just one 100-plus-yard rushing game this season.

GRONK YOUR WAY TO A TITLE

5 This week's concern is the health of Rob Gronkowski, who suffered a concussion against the Jags. All signs point to him being good to go, which means we may be treated to an all-time Gronk performance. The Pats took a "break in case of emergency" approach with Gronk this year — only throwing to him when they were in desperation mode. In the Pittsburgh game late in the regular season,

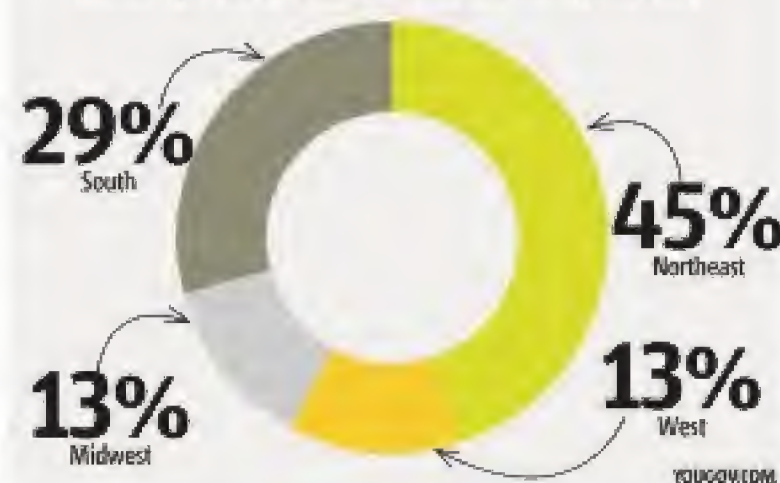
they were surely in desperation mode and Gronk wound up having a 168-yard receiving day. All playoff games are considered "desperation mode," and Gronk had 81 yards receiving with a TD against the Titans. The Pats started throwing the ball to Gronk nonstop in the Jags game when they were down, and before he was injured. Expect No. 87 to make his presence felt in a big way on Sunday.

GIVE IT TO YOUR BEST PLAYER

3 This is the no-brainer of no-brainers, but the Patriots should go out and let Tom Brady win this game for them. The Eagles pass defense is much closer statistically to the Titans than the Jaguars, and Brady wound up throwing the ball a season-high 53 times against Tennessee in the 35-14 divisional round win three weeks ago. Brady has been insanely good so far this postseason (61-of-91 passing for 627 yards, 5 touchdowns, 0 interceptions, 105.0 passer rating) and there's no reason why he can't hang 30 points on the Eagles D. The Eagles allowed 29 points to Eli Manning and the Giants and 35 points to Jared Goff and the Rams late in the regular season. Brady should be able to figure this out.

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Guide: Super Bowl LII's best prop bets

It's always better when there's money involved. That's why we love fantasy football so much. And why so many office hold block pools in which each participant gets a combination of digits for the score. Sunday, when things kick off at 6:30 p.m. on NBC (or

even before, when Pink sings the National Anthem), there are more things to root for than just the final score. Here's a look at some of the best prop bets for Super Bowl LII, and how we would bet them (all odds based on Bet SDI Sportsbook). **EVAN MACY**

Pink national anthem length:

This bet looks to be a sure fire over. Last year the over/under was at 2:09 and this year it's at just two minutes. There will be a big military-jet flyover, a lot of pomp and circumstance on the field, and her timing will need to be spot on, implying she'll sing slowly.

Out pick: Over 2:00 (+140)



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MILEY BECERRA



Bill Belichick's hoodie:

He is indoors at U.S. Bank Stadium. He hasn't worn a hoodie as often this year. Reports from Patriots faithful show that New England fans are very interested in their coaches attire. After all, wearing red against the Giants resulted in a loss. While there are lots of bets regarding what color said hoodie might be, we think this one is an easy bet. He'll wear something different.

Our pick: No (-115)

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED



Will there be an N'SYNC reunion?

We already analyzed rumors that Justin Timberlake — the Super Bowl halftime performer — would reunite with his former boy bandmates during the performance. Joey Fatone is inexplicably in Minneapolis, for God's sake! The betting language says "will any member of N'SYNC appear on stage?" Get ready for some Dirty Pop.

Our pick: Yes (+150)



LeGarrette Blount scores first touchdown
Blount is a former Patriot and is going to play hard against his old team. He is a touchdown machine and will be getting goal-

line carries Sunday. The Patriots have never scored a first quarter touchdown in a Super Bowl with Tom Brady as quarterback. This is a great bet with a great payout.
Our pick: Blount scores (+850)



Zach Ertz receptions vs. Jordan Spieth birdies
Somehow, the geniuses in Vegas always come up with really compelling cross-sport bets. The Waste Management Phoenix Open is always a low-scoring affair, with their stadium par three and drivable par four down the stretch at TPC Scottsdale. Jordan Spieth, a favorite in the event, will likely post somewhere between 4-to-8 birdies in the final round of the tournament. Eagles tight

end Ertz, in our estimation, will lead the Eagles in receptions. We're picking him for this bet.
Our pick: Ertz catches (-160)

Al Michaels says "underdog"
Michaels is NBC's play-by-play man and the Eagles' biggest storyline this postseason has been their success as underdogs. Fans will be wearing dog masks. The payout isn't great, but the payout is all but guaranteed.
Our pick: Yes (-1,000)

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Quarter with the most points
The Patriots are notorious — particularly in the playoffs with Brady at the helm — for scoring late. In nearly all of their Super Bowls, they did most of their damage in the second half or fourth quarter, most

memorably last year's record-setting comeback against the Falcons. The Eagles also are a late-scoring team, posting the sixth-most points in the fourth quarter in the regular season (7.6 per game).
Our pick: The fourth (+170)

Tom Brady for MVP

Brady is the Super Bowl MVP favorite, and it would take a \$130 bet to win \$100. While the odds for the field are tantalizing (Alshon Jeffery pays \$3,000 on a \$100 bet), Brady has won four of five Super Bowl MVPs in addition to the five titles he has won. He will also be the best and most experienced player on the field Sunday (who cares if he's 40 years old?).
Our pick: No. 4 for No. 12 (-130)



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Susie Essman talks 'Curb' season 10, roasting Donald Trump

The actress and comedian is coming to Boston this weekend.

MATT JULI

Larry David isn't the only person Susie Essman has cursed out over the years.

The "Curb Your Enthusiasm" star roasted Donald Trump in a 2004 Friars Club event, and she didn't hold any back.

"That was a long time ago, before he started the birther crap," Essman tells Metro. "If he had been doing that, I never would have roasted him."

Ahead of her trip to Boston on Saturday for the sold-out Chai in the Hub event by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies, we chatted with Essman about that roast, "Curb" and more.

Are you surprised by the

quick turnaround for "Curb" season 10?

No, because I know Larry. I think he has the most fun doing "Curb" out of anything. I think he needed a break. We had done eight seasons of "Curb," which is 80 "Curbs," and he had done I don't know how many "Seinfelds," hundreds of "Seinfelds" before that. I think he just needed some time to get the juices flowing again and experience some other things. But I always knew he would come back. I know for all of us, none of us have ever had so much fun as when we're shooting "Curb." I wasn't surprised by the quick turnaround. He's in his head now. He's back in shape and I think he just wants to get right back at it.

How do you feel like the

show has evolved?

It hasn't changed one iota because that's comedy. In comedy, we're not growing and learning from our mistakes — we just keep on doing the same thing over and over again. When you think about classic comedies, "The Honey-mooners" for example, every single week Ralph had a crazy scheme. He didn't learn anything. He never learned that it's for naught. So that's comedy — you don't grow and learn.

The seasons have changed in that our budget's gotten bigger and they've gotten more



Essman will be in town for this year's Chai in the Hub event.



Jeff Garlin, Susie Essman and Larry David in a scene from "Curb." ALL PHOTOS BY JOHN P. JOHNSON / HBO

ambitious. The storylines have gotten denser over the seasons.

But it's essentially the same show. I was in L.A. for the Screen Actors Guild Awards, and on the plane they had season 5, so I watched a couple. I watched "The Ski Lift," which is Larry's favorite episode of all time, and it's the same. It's all the same. If it's not broken, don't fix it.

Is it strange to look back

on your roast of Trump?

You only roast the people you love or are indifferent to. That's when I was indifferent to him. They asked me to do it at the last minute because they needed people because they couldn't find comedians. They had Katie Couric, but they needed some heavy hitters in there to make the roast work. I did the Friars Club a favor and did that. I had no thought about him whatsoever, except he seemed like a ridiculous human being. The fact that he's now commander-in-chief sends shivers

up my spine.

The irony, I think, is that my personal belief about why he wanted to run in the first place is because Obama gave him such a great roasting at the Washington correspondents' dinner a number of years ago when Obama was president. I think that he humiliated him and, in his mind, it was payback. He just wanted to get back at him and that's why he's trying to reverse everything he possibly ever did. The situation we're in right now all evolved from a stand-up routine.

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5 Movies you have to see at the Festival of Films from Japan

Thanks to a partnership with Uniqlo, the Museum of Fine Arts will celebrate Japanese filmmaking and culture all month long with the inaugural Boston Festival of Films from Japan. Film curator Carter Long shares his picks for the top five films you have to see at this year's fest.



"Your Name" opens the fest Feb. 1.
FUNIMATION

1. "Your Name"

A free screening of this 2016 animated masterpiece opens the fest on Feb. 1. Considered one of the highest-grossing films in Japanese cinema history, "Your Name" tells the tale of a small town girl named Mitsuha who ends up trading bodies with Taki, a teenage boy from Tokyo.

2. "Harmonium"

This drama follows the lives of an "ordinary Japa-

nese family" that falls apart after they meet a mysterious man who's just left prison. "Harmonium," which screens Feb. 9 and 11, won the Un Certain Regard Jury Prize at the 69th Cannes Film Festival.

3. "Resistance at Tule Lake"

This 2017 documentary explores the little-known story of how 12,000 Japanese Americans tried to resist the U.S. government's mass incar-

ceration program during World War II. These citizens were branded as disloyal and sent to prison, where they kept their protests going despite threats of violence. The film screens on Feb. 4 and 8.

4. "Tokyo Idols"

Screening Feb. 2 and 8, the film follows the life of a woman named Rio, a budding pop singer who has a large following of obsessed, middle-aged male fans. "Tokyo Idols" uses her story to examine the disconnect between men and women in "hyper-modern societies."

5. "Blade of the Immortal"

Screening Feb. 9 and 18, the film is a live-action interpretation of the hit manga of the same name. The flick centers around a skilled warrior who's cursed with immortality. **MATT JOUL**

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Super Bowl Sunday Wing Fest

If wings are more your style, take a trip over to Dorchester Brewing Company on Sunday for a fowl-filled feast. The Ashmont Grill, M&M Ribs and Fuji at WoC will be there offering up tastings. Feb. 4, noon-3 p.m., 1250 Massachusetts Ave., Dorchester, dorchesterbrewing.com

FOOD & DRINKS

Extreme Beer Fest

Back for its 15th year, this annual celebration of craft brews features over 300 beers from more than 80

different brewers. Thousands of attendees are expected to show up at this year's fest, which will also have food on hand courtesy of Binge BBQ, Roxy's Grilled Cheese, KO Pies and Waffle Cabin. Feb. 2-3, Seaport World Trade Center, One

Seaport Ln., \$65, beeradvocate.com/extreme/boston

Lager Launch Party

Bay State brewers Trillium and Notch are teaming up for a special beer collaboration this weekend. Head over to the recently launched Trillium Garden at the Substation in Roslindale on Saturday to try a first taste of their new I Predict a Riot American Pale Lager. Feb. 3, 11 a.m.-10 p.m., 4228 Washington St., Roslindale, trilliumbrewing.com/trillium-events/notch-lagerlaunch

ARTS & CULTURE

"Love Never Dies"

Andrew Lloyd Webber's sequel to "The Phantom of the Opera" takes over the Boston Opera House this month. Set in Coney Island, the show takes place 10 years after the Phantom's mysterious disappearance. Through Feb. 11, Boston Opera House, 539 Washington St., \$39+, bostonoperahouse.com

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FOOD & DRINKS



Super Bowl Sunday Chili Cook-off

Fill up before Sunday's big game with this annual cook-off in Somerville. Now in its 13th year, the event features up to 30 contestants who'll throw down to see who has the best chili in town. Bring a gallon of your own recipe for a chance at the crown, or just stop by for free tastings, a t-shirt, beer prizes and more. Feb. 4, noon-3 p.m., Olde Magoun's Saloon, 518 Medford St., Somerville, free, magounssaloon.com/13th-annual-great-chili-cook-off

hip-hop band brings their eclectic and funky sound to the House of Blues on Friday night. The Ries Brothers and The Silks will join G. Love & Special Sauce during their trip to the Hub this weekend. Feb. 2, 7 p.m., House of Blues, 15

Lansdowne St., \$29.50, houseofblues.com/

Rick Ross

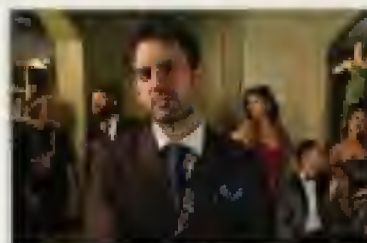
Let's face it, most people will probably extend their weekend

an extra day because of the Super Bowl, especially if the Patriots end up winning it all. Keep the party going on Monday night at the Grand with rap star Rick Ross. Feb. 5, 10 p.m., The Grand, 58 Seaport Blvd., Suite 300, \$50+, thegrand-

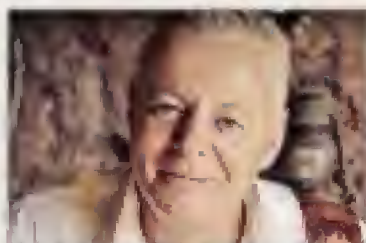
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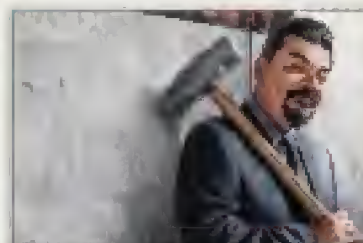
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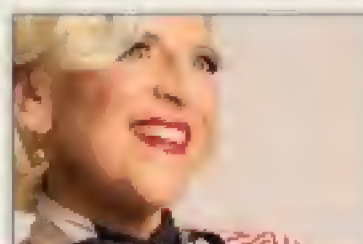
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COMEDY

Rubix Kube

Head back to the era of NIKOTB and Paula Abdul with this special show on Friday night. Tribute band Rubix Kube will take over the Hard Rock Café for a music-filled '80s bash. Feb. 2, 9 p.m.-midnight, Hard Rock Café, 22-24 Clinton St., \$18-\$25, hardrock.com

Lenny Clarke

Robbie Printz will join the Boston comedy legend as they bring the laughs to the Lenox Hotel's Dome Room on Friday night. Tickets to the show also include a free pre-show appetizer. Feb. 2, 8 p.m.-11 p.m., Lenox Hotel, 61 Exeter St., \$39, lenoxhotel.com

GOING OUT

First Fridays

The ICA's First Fridays series is back this week with a "winter oasis"-themed bash. Enjoy a night of art, cocktails, dancing and more with music by DJ Mikey D. Feb. 2, 5 p.m.-10 p.m., 25 Harbor Shore Dr., \$15, icaboston.org MATT JULI

ARTS & CULTURE



Joe Biden

After a successful stop in Boston earlier this winter, the former vice president is bringing his "American Promise" tour back to the Bay State this weekend. Each ticket comes with a copy of Biden's memoir, "Promise Me, Dad: A Year of Hope, Hardship, and Purpose." Feb. 1, 7 p.m., Chevalier Theatre, 30 Forest St., Medford, \$42+, chevaliertheatre.com/artist/joe-biden

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The *ultimate guide* to Super Bowl parties around Boston

Find your perfect spot to cheer on the Patriots. **MATT JUUL**



Don't forget to show off your Patriots pride. **GUTY IMAGES**

Local sports bars and restaurants are going all out for this year's big game, which means there are plenty of places around town for fans to cheer on New England as they take on Philadelphia. From

watch parties to food and drink specials, check out our ultimate guide to celebrating Super Bowl Sunday in Boston.

Canary Square
The Jamaica Plain

hotspot is bringing back its all-you-can-eat buffet for this year's big game. For just \$20 per person, attendees will be able to munch on "super healthy" taco salad, a build-your-own nacho bar, wings, fried mozzarella sticks, pulled-pork sliders and more. The feast is set to begin at 5 p.m. Sunday.
435 S. Huntington Ave., Jamaica Plain, canarysquare.com

Capo
The Supper Club, located in Capo's downstairs, will be getting in on the fun with an "ultimate football viewing experience" beginning at 4 p.m. Fans can reserve lounge seating and couches that come with private mini fridges filled with personalized goodies.
443 W Broadway, caposouth-boston.com

City Tap House
City Tap House will have a special tailgate platter available for \$52, featuring Philly cheesesteak, spring rolls, pizza, wings and potato skins. For an

additional \$12, guests can order a specialty bucket of Narragansett Beers as they watch the big game on an array of 80-inch screens.
10 Boston Wharf Rd., Boston, citytap.com

City Winery
The venue is hosting a special Super Bowl party where guests can eat as much as they like from the buffet while watching the game on several big screens. Tickets to the event are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and specialty cocktails will also be available for purchase.
80 Beverly St., citywinery.com/boston

Davio's
Fans can watch the big game in style while enjoying treats like Davio's signature spring rolls, gnocchi bolognese, burgers and more. Guests should also hope for a chilly game day, as the restaurant will be giving away one order of spring rolls per person in its bar area if the temperature outside falls below 15 degrees Fahrenheit.



Don't miss any of the action on Sunday. **PROVIDED**

75 Arlington St., davios.com/bos

Game On!
Featuring two bars, two floors and 32 televisions, this Fenway favorite will be the place to be for diehard fans Super Bowl Sunday. In addition to wings, pizza and a large draft-beer selection, the viewing party will include swag giveaways every quarter.
82 Lansdowne St., gameon-boston.com

Hurricane's at the Garden
Located near TD Garden,

the recently reinvented Hurricane O'Reilly's is ready for this year's big game. Kicking off at 6:30 p.m., the newly dubbed Hurricane's at the Garden is hosting a watch party where fans can feast on a revamped menu by executive chef Patricio Morales.
150 Canal St., hurricaneoreillysboston.com

Kings
Head to this restaurant, bar and gaming chain to watch all of this year's action on a slew of HDTVs and projection screen-

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ings, as well as enjoy free bowling after 3 p.m. at select locations around the Bay State. Giant mugs and craft cocktails will also be available. Various locations, kings-de.com

Papagayo
Patriots and Eagles fans will have a chance to win a free meal at Papagayo on Super Bowl Sunday. Guests who cheer on the winning team at either the Somerville or Boston locations won't have to worry about the bill once the gameday fun is over. Patrons who root for the losing team will also be treated to a nice deal, as they'll receive a free entree during their next visit. Guests must pur-

chase a beverage, arrive before kickoff and hang out for the entire game in order to participate. Various locations, papagayorestaurants.com

SKYBOKX 109 Sports Bar & Grill
This Natick sports bar has everything you need for a perfect Super Bowl party, including nearly two dozens TV screens, plus more than 20 beers on tap, to keep the fun going. Guests can also munch on a variety of delicious offerings, including a Patriots pizza, featuring fried clams, diced potato, bacon, mozzarella cheese and a white clam sauce. 319 Speen St., Natick, skybokx109.com

The Smoke Shop
Enjoy a delicious barbecue buffet at either of chef Andy Husbands' restaurants in the Seaport and Kendall Square. The Smoke Shop is teaming up with Shiner Bock for a Super Bowl extravaganza, complete with wings, brisket, pulled pork and more. Various locations, thesmoke-shopsuperbowl.eventbrite.com

Tony C's Sports Bar & Grill
The Tony C's in Assembly Row will have plenty of fun dishes to feast on during this year's Super Bowl festivities, plus 90 screens so you won't miss a second of action. The gameday menu is set to include Philly cheesesteak wontons, parmesan truffle fries, chicken wings and more. 699 Assembly Row, Somerville, tonycsportsbar.com

Yotel
The hotel is getting in on the fun starting at 5 p.m. on Sunday. Head to Yotel's rooftop bar and lounge for half-priced bar bites and halftime specials. 65 Seaport Blvd., yotel.com

Celebrity Super Bowl predictions

Mila Kunis



"Tom Brady, arguably the greatest quarterback, right? So, congratulations," Kunis told reporters following her Hasty Pudding Woman of the Year ceremony in Cambridge. "One of my best friends is from Philadelphia, so I'm not going to pick a team," she added. "But it'd be nice to see the Eagles go all the way. Again, Tom Brady, congratulations, you're awesome and you played with a lot of stitches. You're great. We know you're great. You've showed us for three years. You're pretty damn great."

Gabriel Iglesias

"First of all, go Pats!" the comic told Metro prior to his upcoming performances in Medford. "I think it'll be pretty close. Brady's still a killer, but I don't think he's going to continue to be that high scoring, big separation. I think he's just going to keep it interesting."



Steve Aoki



"Brady is my guy. Gronk's my guy," the DJ told Metro ahead of his tour's stop in Worcester later this month. "You know who I'm rooting for. That team is unstoppable."

Joe Perry

"The Patriots are showing the world what they got, and I'm proud of that," Perry told Metro during a recent trip to Boston. However, the Aerosmith rocker stopped short of predicting the outcome of this year's Super Bowl, saying, "Generally, I don't like to say anything at all about those things because I think it's fate and I just have a lot of good energy aiming their way. They are certainly an amazing team."



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RICHARD SILVERSTEIN
letters@metro.us

We get it — you don't have unlimited vacation days or a bank account brimming with euros.

But there's never been a better time for a trans-Atlantic trip, because airfare's just as cheap as a roundtrip flight cross-country.

To maximize your first visit, focus on the holy triffecta: Rome, Florence and Venice.

In the name of the father: Rome
Known as "The Eternal

City" for over 2,000 years, the capital is home to Italy's ancient "best of."

Rome's the birthplace of the Baroque style, so there's art around every corner. First, take a refresher in high school history and spend some time at the city's architectural marvels.

The Colosseum lives up to its name as the largest amphitheater ever

built. And because in the earliest 80s (that is to say the 8-0 ADs) it was the venue to which as many as 80,000 bloodthirsty spectators would flock in order to watch gladiators battle.

The ancient Italian equivalent of the National Mall, the Forum, was the heart of Rome's government for centuries. Today it's an incredible place for a sunny stroll, as the landscape is dotted with shrines and monuments to rulers dating back hundreds of years before Julius Caesar.

Neither the Colosseum nor the Forum have withstood the test of time as well as the Pantheon, so for a more complete picture check out this former temple

(and now Catholic church). The 2,000-year-old unreinforced concrete dome atop it is still the world's largest, and the building itself is one of the best-preserved from the era.

And now that you're a world traveler, pop into the city-country within the country for a visit to the Vatican. The smallest state in the world (both by size and population) is home to the pope, and there's a whole

lot to Holy See, such as St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican Museum. You needn't be religious to appreciate the art and ambiance.



Come for the romance, but stay for the risotto.

The son: Florence

The Tuscan sun shines bright on the artistic standouts that make Florence a tourist mecca. The best-known site in the city is called Cattedrale di Santa Maria del Fiore, but you might recognize its shorthand name, The Duomo.

Ready for a break from church to appreciate some art? While in Florence, make a move to the Galleria dell'Accademia and ponder Michelangelo's masterpiece in marble, David.

The Uffizi Gallery has been open to the public for over 250 years

(compared to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, a youngster at 146 years old). They've got your Ninja Turtles (Michelangelo, Raphael and Leonardo), as well as Rembrandt and countless pieces of art you'll recognize even if the artist's name escapes you. An organized tour is definitely your best bet, as it can take up to five hours in line just to get in otherwise during peak season.

And the holy ghost: Venice

We're calling Venice "the holy ghost" as this ethereal destination (comprising 118 small islands separated by canals and linked by 400 bridges) is slowly sinking into the ever-rising sea. As such, there's no time like the present to visit.

You'll find Venice's two greatest charmers, Doge's Palace and the Basilica of San Marco, side by side. The Palace's apartments, Opera House and even prisons contain almost 700 years' worth of history and artefacts. St. Mark's, on the other hand, is closer to 1,000.

After a whole lot of walking, treat yourself to a gondola ride along the Grand Canal. This is a great way to get a feel of the place and take a break from the crowds.

The real must-do in Venice, however, is to simply get lost along back alleys and on small bridges. This will no doubt happen even if you do bring a map, and will make for incredible, authentic memories.

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Super Bowl Sunday ski deals around New England

Celebrate the big game on the slopes this weekend. **ERIC WILBUR**

There was a time in New England, oh young 'uns, when Patriots fans didn't fear having to split their January weekends between the TV and the mountains.

Twenty years ago, the NFL postseason was an occasional occurrence in Foxboro, easily paving the way for full skiing weekends, all with a casual eye on which teams might be headed to the Super Bowl. Then, Belichick and Brady came along and, well...

"Any Super Bowl is going to pull away from any outdoor activity," said Greg Fisher, vice president of marketing for Peak Resorts. "But when the Patriots are in the

game, it does make it more difficult as a marketer to convince that fan to visit our resorts."

Thus, with the Patriots in yet another Super Bowl Sunday night, against the Philadelphia Eagles, it might mean less of a chance that you find your way to the slopes in the hours prior to kickoff.

"The Super Bowl is essentially a holiday," Fisher said. "One would argue that enough planning goes into a Super Bowl party as Christmas dinner. My sister doesn't watch a lick of football but she goes to a Super Bowl party every year. It's stories like this that will have all of us in some sort

of outdoor activity seeing less people."

Not that there aren't incentives to do so. For instance, lift tickets will only be \$35 at Peak properties Attitash Mountain Resort and Wildcat Mountain in New Hampshire. At Crotched Mountain, also under the Peak umbrella, you can ski from 5 p.m. Saturday night until 3 a.m. (yes, with an 'a') Sunday morning for only \$33 if you wear any item of Patriot logowear.

Wear your Patriots gear to Nashoba Valley on Sunday and you can purchase a lift or tubing ticket for only \$25, good from 5p.m.-10 p.m. That leaves ample time to get



Spend Super Bowl Sunday hitting up the mountains. **SKI VERMONT**

a few runs in before and after the game, which you can catch at the Westford ski area's Outlook Restaurant, complete with a free halftime buffet. Wachusett Mountain will also have discounted night lift tickets for \$30, with clam chowder and cheesesteak specials in the Coppertop Lounge at game time.

Okemo Mountain Resort will have an early-release program Sunday, giving fans ample time to hit the road and get home in time for kickoff (8 a.m.-

1:30 p.m., \$82 adults, \$69 young adults and seniors). If you decide to stick around though and — hopefully — celebrate a New England win on the slopes, your lift ticket price will be based on the total combined points scored in the Super Bowl (price will be capped at \$65). So, if it's 24-7, Pats, you have a \$31 lift ticket in your Monday morning future. Of course, if it's somehow a 7-0 Eagles final score, well, that's a heck of a deal nobody re-

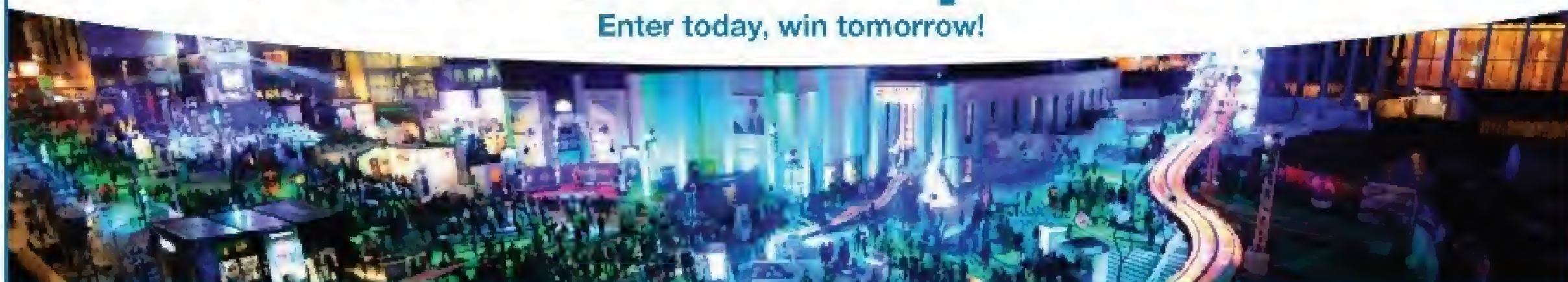
ally wants.

Magic Mountain will host a Super Bowl party from 3 p.m.-11 p.m. in its Black Line Tavern, featuring the game on a big-screen projector with dinner specials to boot. Stay the night, and spend part of the day at the ski area's Super Monday brunch (\$15, 9 a.m.-noon), and the remainder during an open day of skiing on the slopes.

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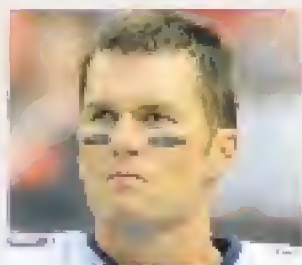
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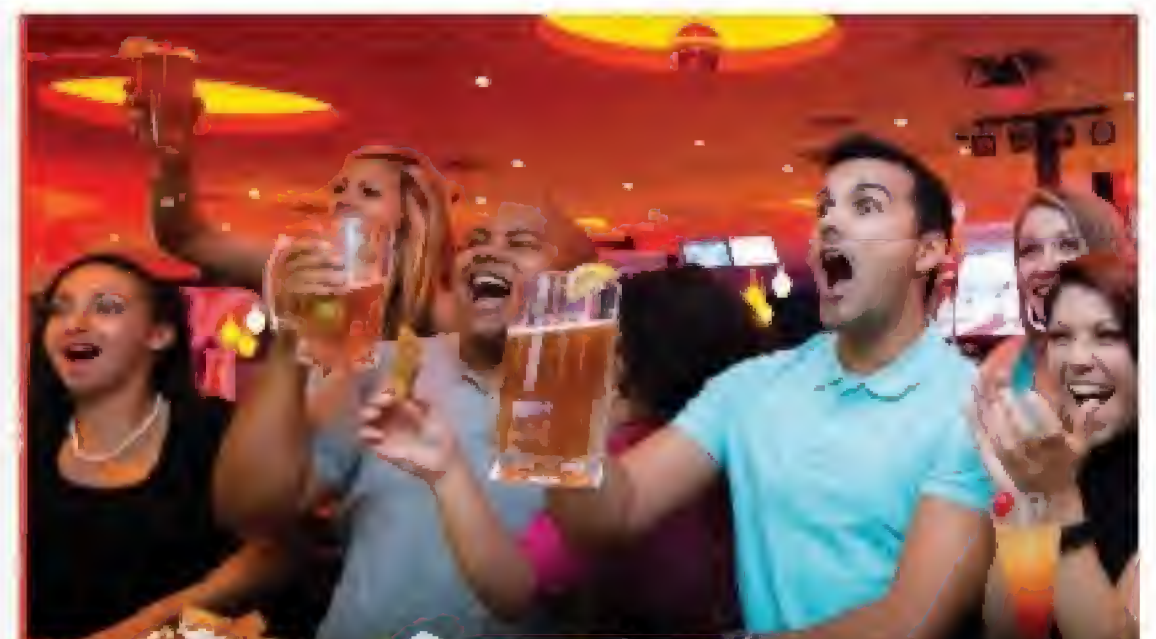
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ROB GRONKOWSKI
#87 TE

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Born: Aug. 12, 1988, Amherst, New York
College: Arizona

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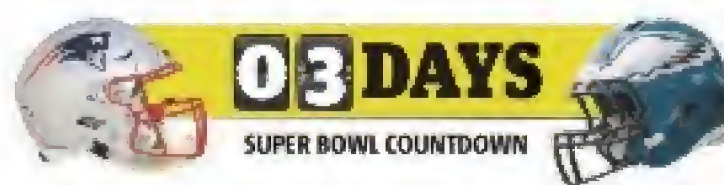
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Here is how to beat the Birds



The experienced New England Patriots have the upper hand when it comes to experience in big games like this. Philadelphia sports editor Evan Macy sheds some light on some other ways the Pats could take down the Eagles. GETTY IMAGES

A look at three ways the Patriots can exploit the Eagles' weaknesses during Super Bowl LII.



EVAN MACY
evan.macy@metro.us

The Eagles looked like a complete football team two Sunday's ago, when they demolished the Vikings 38-7 in the NFC Championship game. But it wasn't long before that Eagles fans were dismayed and pessimistic.

Before barely hanging on to beat the No. 6 seed Falcons with a goalline stand, 15-10, the Eagles

were shut out by the Cowboys (granted, with mostly backups) after an uneasy win over the Raiders in Week 16. Philly's Championship Week performance was unexpectedly brilliant.

Will this weekend's Super Bowl see the glowing performance of Nick Foles and his 141.1 quarterback rating? Or will

the Patriots be able to feast on Foles, the game manager with the hot-potato skill players?

Here are the three gravest weaknesses that the Patriots will look to exploit in Super Bowl LII.

1. INEXPERIENCE

Of 53 players on Philly's roster, just seven have Super Bowl experience. Malcolm Jenkins won the big game with the Saints in 2010, Torrey Smith with the Ravens in 2012 — along with Corey Graham and Dannell Ellerby — and a year later, Chris Maragos won with the Seahawks. And then, of course, former Patriots Chris Long and LeGarrette Blount also have titles to their name and will face former teammates Sunday.

"We do have a couple players on this team that has been there as early as last season," Eagles head coach Doug Pederson said. "We can lean on those guys and some of the experiences that some of our other players have been to the Super Bowl and all that. But, listen, I trust my leaders of the team. I trust that they will keep this group focused and grounded. It's an all-

hands-on-deck mentality.

The Eagles are built with a lot of younger players. Foles, the most important Eagle next week, will be playing on the biggest stage in football. Will his nerves resemble Donovan McNabb's from the last time Philly was in a Super Bowl (with the QB throwing up before the game)?

2. FUMBLES

The Eagles turnover differential of plus-11 is one of the main reasons they are where they are. But they have had some luck on their side. Fumbling the ball 26 times, the Eagles average 1.6 per game, the fifth most of any NFL team during the regular season. They coughed the ball up four times against the Falcons in the Divisional Round, losing two of them — each leading to Atlanta's two scoring drives.

Somehow during the 16-game season, Philadelphia only gave the ball away 11 of those 26 times and their fumble recovery rate of 59 percent was the sixth best in the NFL this season. The Patriots have the second best fumble rate in the league and have lost just four fum-

bles. The turnover battle will be huge for the Eagles and Patriots and the team with the most takeaways will likely hoist the Lombard Trophy.

3. SPECIAL TEAMS

In what is usually an area of strength for the Eagles, special teams have done the Birds few favors this postseason as muffed punts and missed kicks have threatened to derail their efforts.

With Darren Sproles and Chris Maragos sidelined and with a rookie kicker lining up, the Eagles are not at full strength in special teams. And it has shown, as Jake Elliott missed four extra points during the regular season and one during the postseason. The Eagles have one of the worst kick return averages in the NFL and did not boast one of the league's 16 return touchdowns this season. They are one of eight teams to have had a punt blocked.

Fielding the ball mistake free and making every kick — as fundamental as it sounds — is key for the Eagles. If the Patriots can force some mistakes on special teams they can help their cause.

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OPINION

**DANNY
PICARD**
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If you're like me, then by now, you've become frustrated with nearly every Super Bowl storyline. You're done with press conferences. You've gone from nervous to angry. You just want Sunday to arrive.

Well, we're just a few more days from either seeing Nick Foles shock the world or watching the Patriots win back-to-back championships for the second time in franchise history.

That's ultimately what Super Bowl LI comes down to, Brady and Foles. It's the greatest quarterback of all-time taking on a backup quarterback.

And I'm going with Brady. I'm taking the Patriots to win by a touchdown. The biggest difference maker? New England's offensive line.

It sounds like simple analysis. And you can probably say it about every NFL team in every game. But it's a fact.

Protect Brady, and the Patriots will win the Super Bowl.

Philadelphia's pass rush changed everything about the NFC Championship. In fact, you could make the argument that if Eagles defensive end Chris Long didn't get to Vikings quarterback Case Keenum late in the first



When looking at the quarterback comparisons, it's David vs. Goliath, but the Patriots still need to keep Tom Brady clean in the pocket in Super Bowl LI. GETTY IMAGES

quarter, then perhaps Philadelphia doesn't even win that game and advance to the Super Bowl.

The Vikings scored all too easily on the first possession of the game. It was a nine-play, 75-yard drive that resulted in a 25-yard touchdown pass from Keenum to Kyle Rudolph and a 7-0 lead for Minnesota just five minutes into the game.

The Eagles then ran four plays and punted. It felt like Minnesota was going to run away with it.

Then, on 3rd-and-8 from the Vikings' own 43-yard line, Philadelphia sent a four-man rush. No tricks, nothing disguised, and Long toasted Minnesota's right tackle. He just got a piece of Keenum's throwing arm as he attempted a pass to his right, and it resulted in an underthrown ball and

a pick-six. Suddenly, the game was tied at 7-7. And that's when Foles took over, throwing for 352 yards and three touchdowns.

It's amazing how one play can change a football game. But it shouldn't be surprising to see that pressure on the quarterback can win you a football game. And to me, that's the only way the Eagles can beat the Patriots. They have to get to Brady and force a turnover.

If the Patriots' offensive line can give Brady time, we've come to expect that he'll be able to make all the big plays. Question is, can Foles keep up with Brady?

Because we've also come to expect that Bill Belichick will make all the right adjustments at halftime. So, perhaps the better question is, can

Foles keep up with Brady in the second half of the Super Bowl?

People will talk about blueprints. They'll tell you that Tom Coughlin has it. Or they'll tell you that Brady will see ghosts

if you can get in his kitchen.

What they fail to understand is the Patriots' blueprint for success, which is protecting Brady's kitchen. When New England's offensive

line does that, it's nearly impossible to beat Brady. And as history shows, more often than not, his kitchen has been very well protected.

A strong showing from the Pats' offensive line won't just help Brady, it'll also help Dion Lewis, who seems motivated to have a big game against his old team.

I know, this sounds like the most generic form of "Football 101" you'll find. But in the two weeks leading up to Super Bowl LI, the headlines can get so outrageous that sometimes you need to dial it back and understand what the most important key to the game is.

And if the Patriots' offensive line can give Brady the proper amount of time to do his thing, there's just no way that Foles can keep up.

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Docket No. SU11P0763PM

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Estate of: Irene McCarthy

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Alyssa N Asack of Brockton MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, RTD: 03/08/18 and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/08/2018.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 12, 2018

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU18P0082EA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Estate of: Dennis Quinn Parham

Date of Death: 07/15/2017

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Nicole W. Parham of Dorchester MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Nicole W. Parham of Dorchester MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/27/2018.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 16, 2018

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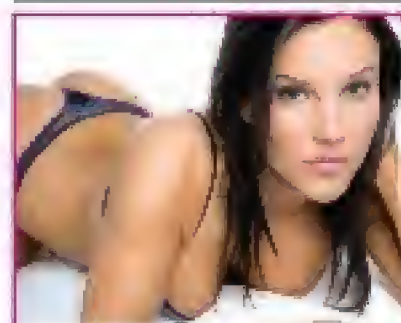
- Mortgage Sale of Real Estate
- Public Notice
- COB Liquor License
- Licensing
- Notice of Public Hearing
- Divorces
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- Notice of Sale of personal Property
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- Order of Notice

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Across

- 1 Egypt's capital
- 6 Sell cheap
- 10 Gawk at
- 14 Poe's middle name
- 15 Son of Rebekah
- 16 Mailbox attachment
- 17 Rotisserie parts
- 18 Actress Deborah --
- 19 Snake's tooth
- 20 Far East cuisine
- 21 Relevance
- 23 The blues
- 25 Provided financing
- 26 Moo goo -- pan
- 27 Muddies up
- 29 The thick of things
- 32 Long short story
- 36 Bother
- 37 Gave out sparingly
- 38 Mattress problem
- 39 Mail amenity
- 42 River horse, for short
- 44 Softball teams
- 45 Crooner -- Damone
- 46 Sewed loosely
- 49 Snapshot takers
- 53 Disagreement
- 56 Speech imperfection
- 57 Not enclosed
- 58 Wyatt the lawman
- 59 End-of-year temp
- 60 Dispatch

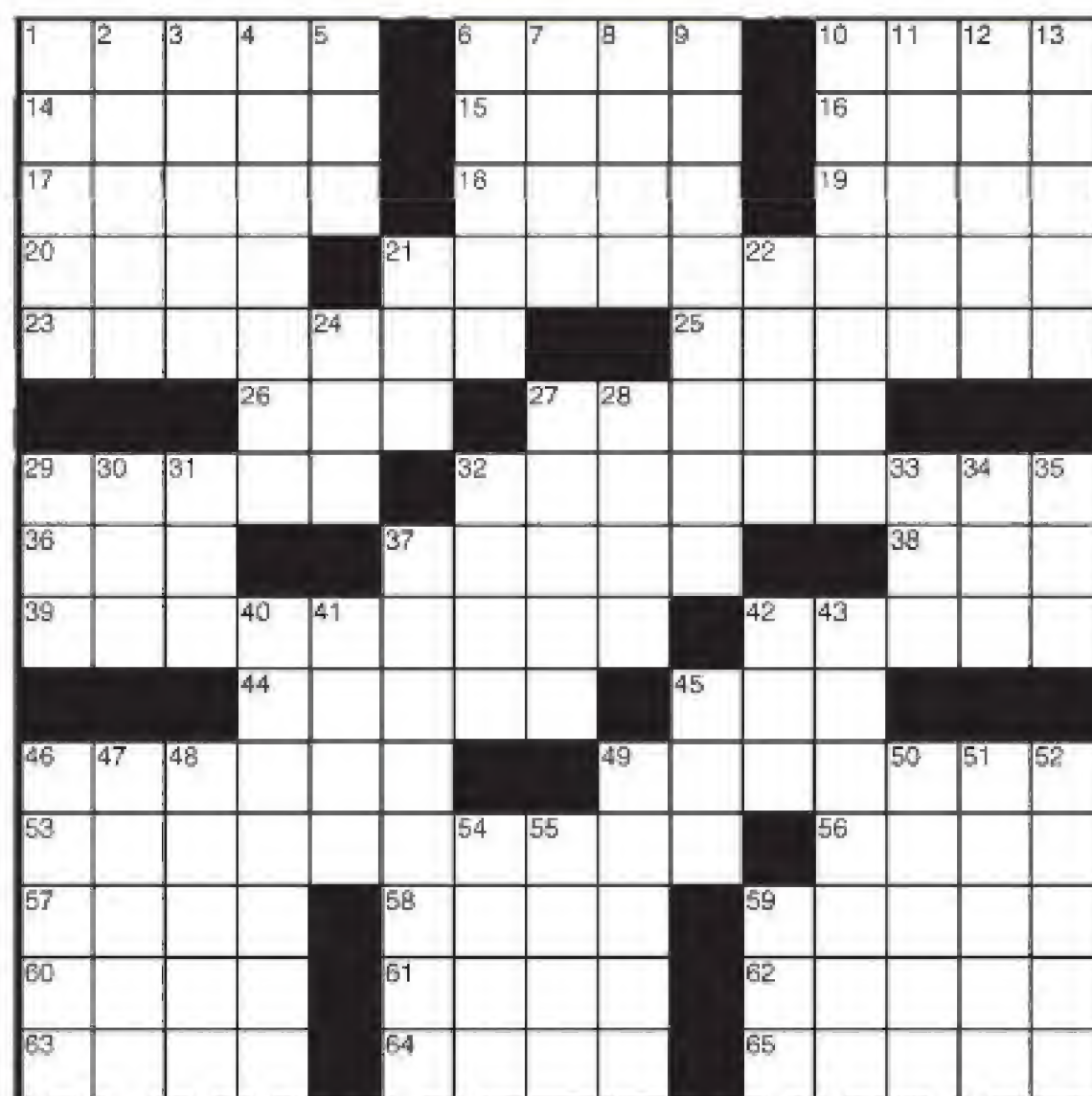
- 61 Gin-fizz flavor
- 62 Rile up
- 63 School period
- 64 Take care of
- 65 Some bouquets

Down

- 1 Flings
- 1 Flings
- 2 Precedes beta
- 3 Siege of Troy story
- 4 PG and R
- 5 Add- -- (extras)
- 6 Fakes out, on the rink
- 7 Tech-support caller
- 8 Retail center
- 9 Cleansed
- 10 Stadium cry
- 11 Hormone producer
- 12 Knight's weapon
- 13 Urged on
- 21 Frat letter

- 22 Invalid
- 24 Munch on
- 27 Flies alone
- 28 In charge of
- 29 Daisy --
- 30 Badges
- 31 Rx giver
- 32 Jot down
- 33 Sugar amt.
- 34 Knock politely
- 35 Id companion
- 37 Most nifty
- 40 "Low" re "high"
- 41 Golf positions
- 42 "She Done -- Wrong"
- 43 Island nation
- 45 Mover's rental
- 46 Upward shove
- 47 Fruit stand buy
- 48 Javelin
- 49 Managed somehow
- 50 Beatles drummer
- 51 Autumn flower
- 52 Ships' booms
- 54 Scheherazade offering
- 55 Tailor's need
- 59 -- Paulo, Brazil

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easy

	7	2			6		1	8
		1	4			9		
9			1			3	4	
2	6							
			3		4			
							2	5
	4	5			3			7
		3			8	6		
1	2		7			8	3	

hard

7	4				9		2	
3				2		8		
		1			3			
8			4		1		6	7
	1						4	
4	6		2		5			9
			7			9		
		9		5				6
	3		6				5	8

metro.us/horoscopes



Aries Change is good, but don't go overboard. Don't let anyone talk you into something that will leave you in debt or cause you stress. Choose to do things your way.



Taurus your assets and personal information. Stress will lead to health issues if you don't take time to chill out and regroup.



Gemini Keep your life simple and live within your means. Gauging what you can do and being realistic will take discipline and moderation.



Cancer Concentrate on your relationships. Whether personal or professional, getting along and trying to understand someone else's logic will help you move forward.



Leo Someone from your past will let you down. Don't get angry. Channel your energy into personal accomplishments and gains if you want to have the last laugh.



Virgo Your emotions will set the stage for the way your relationships will unfold. Don't let anger supersede patience and common sense. Self-deception will lead to loss.



Libra Think twice before you agree to help someone asking for favors. The story you are being told is not something you should be part of. Offer advice, nothing more.



Scorpio Changes at home may not be to your liking. Don't let your emotions take the reins, or act on an assumption you have made. Be willing to compromise.



Sagittarius Plan a trip with a loved one. It doesn't have to be costly; just romantic and geared toward providing time to talk about your joint future.



Capricorn Buying items you don't need will put a kink in your cash flow. Don't feel pressured to show how much you care for someone by purchasing lavish gifts.



Aquarius Partnerships are highlighted. Make personal changes that will help you look and feel good. Moderation will be necessary, and romance is encouraged.

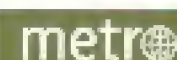


Pisces Refuse to let anyone upset you. Anger will not help sort out a financial, emotional or health issue. Calm down and take one step at a time.

Yesterday's answers

SPEED	STIR	PAN
AISSLE	CARNE	ORE
INTEL	EXURB	LEI
LEACHED	EASING	
TIRADE	UTAH	
THOR	GREATAPES	
NADIR	SCRIMP	
THEFTS	CALLAIS	
YEARN	HEALS	
WHISPERED	MDSE	
DEAN	VACATE	
RANGED	EMENDED	
AVG	WIPED	ATARI
PEA	EMILE	SAHIB
ERR	REEF	ELLES

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